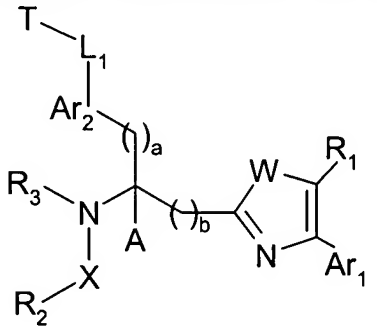
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of Formula (I):



(I)

wherein

a and b are equal to 0 and 1; wherein the values of 0 and 1 ~~comprise~~ are a direct bond and $-CH_2-$, respectively, and wherein the $-CH_2-$ group is optionally substituted 1 to 2 times with a substituent group, wherein said substituent group(s) or the term substituted refers to groups ~~comprising~~: -alkyl, -aryl, -alkylene-aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-arylene-alkyl, -O-alkyl, -O-aryl, or –hydroxyl;

W is ~~–O–, –S–, or –~~$N(R_4)$-;

wherein

R_4 is

a) -hydrogen;

b) -alkyl;

c) $-L_2$-D-G;

d) $-L_2$-D-alkyl;

e) $-L_2$-D-aryl;

f) $-L_2$-D-heteroaryl;

g) $-L_2$-D-cycloalkyl;

h) $-L_2$-D-heterocyclyl;

i) $-L_2$-D-arylene-alkyl;

j) – L_2-D-alkylene-cycloalkyl;

k) – L_2-D-alkylene-heterocyclyl;

l) – L_2-D-alkylene-aryl;

m) – L_2-D-alkylene-heteroaryl;

n) – L_2-D-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

o) – L_2-D-alkylene-heteroarylene-alkyl;

p) –L_2-D-alkyl-G;

q) – L_2-D-aryl-G;

r) – L_2-D-heteroaryl-G;

s) – L_2-D-cycloalkyl-G;

t) – L_2-D-heterocyclyl-G;

u) – L_2-D-arylene-alkyl-G;

v) – L_2-D-alkylene-cycloalkyl-G;

w) – L_2-D-alkylene-heterocyclyl-G;

x) – L_2-D-alkylene-aryl-G;

y) – L_2-D-alkylene-heteroaryl-G;

z) – L_2-D-alkylene-arylene-alkyl-G; or

aa) – L_2-D-alkylene-heteroarylene-alkyl-G;

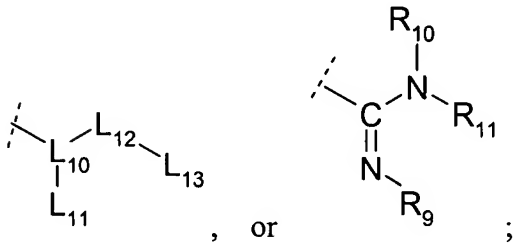
wherein

L_2 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene , or -alkynylene;

D is a direct bond, –CH_2-, -O-, -N(R_5)-, -C(O)-, -CON(R_5)-, -N(R_6)C(O)-, -N(R_6)CON(R_5)-, -N(R_5)C(O)O-, -OC(O)N(R_5)-, -N(R_5)SO_2-, -SO_2N(R_5)-, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, -S(O_2)-, or -N(R_5)SO_2N(R_6)-, -N=N-, or -N(R_5)-N(R_6)-,

wherein R_5 and R_6 are independently selected from the group consisting of : -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

G is -H, -alkyl, –CN, -SO_3H, -P(O)$(OH)_2$, -P(O)(O-alkyl)(OH), –CO_2H, -CO_2-alkyl, an acid isostere, -NR_7R_8,



wherein

L_{10} is alkyline, cycloalkyline, heteroaryline, aryline, or heterocyclyline;

L_{12} is -O-, -C(O)-N(R_{40})- , -C(O)-O-, -C(O)-, or –N(R_{40})-CO-N(R_{41})-;

L_{13} is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, or -alkylene-aryl;

L_{11} is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, -alkylene-aryl, -alkylene - heteroaryl, alkylene-O-alkylene-aryl, -alkylene-S-alkylene-aryl, -alkylene-O-alkyl, -alkylene-S-alkyl, -alkylene-NH_2, -alkylene-OH, -alkylene-SH, -alkylene-C(O)-OR_{42}, -alkylene-C(O)-$NR_{42}R_{43}$, -alkylene-$NR_{42}R_{43}$, -alkylene-N(R_{42})-C(O)-R_{43}, , -alkylene-N(R_{42})-S(O_2)-R_{43} , or the side chain of a natural or non – natural amino acid;

R_{42} and R_{43} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl, alkyl, and alkylene-aryl;

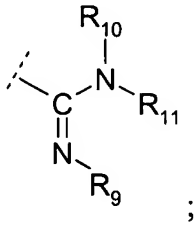
wherein

R_{42} and R_{43} may be taken together to form a ring having the formula – $(CH_2)_q$-Y-$(CH_2)_r$- bonded to the nitrogen atom to which R_{11} and R_{12} are attached, wherein q and r are, independently, 1, 2, 3, or 4; Y is -CH_2-, -C(O)-, -O-, -N(H)- , -S-, -S(O)-, -SO_2-, -CON(H)-, -NHC(O)-, -NHCON(H)-, -$NHSO_2$-, -SO_2N(H)-, -(O)CO-, -$NHSO_2NH$-, -OC(O)-, -N(R_{44})-, -N(C(O)R_{44})-, -N(C(O)NHR_{44})-, -N(SO_2NHR_{44})-, -N(SO_2R_{44})-, or -N(C(O)OR_{44})-; or

R_{42} and R_{43} may be taken together, with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, to form a heterocyclyl or heteroaryl ring;

R_{40}, R_{41}, and R_{44} are independently selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, aryl, alkyl, or alkylene-aryl;

and wherein

R_7 and R_8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -alkyl, -L_3-E-alkyl, -L_3-E-aryl, -C(O)-alkyl, -C(O)-aryl, -SO_2-alkyl, -SO_2-aryl, and  ;

wherein

R_9, R_{10}, and R_{11} are independently selected from the group consisting of : -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

L_3 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene , or -alkynylene;

E is a direct bond, –CH_2-, -O-, -N(R_{12})-, -C(O)-, -CON(R_{12})-, -N(R_{12})C(O)-, -N(R_{12})CON(R_{13})-, -N(R_{12})C(O)O-, -OC(O)N(R_{12})-, -N(R_{12})SO_2-, -SO_2N(R_{12})-, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, -S(O_2)-, -N(R_{12})SO_2N(R_{13})-, -N=N-, or -N(R_{12})-N(R_{13})-, wherein

R_{12} and R_{13} are independently selected from the group consisting of : -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

A is hydrogen, -alkyl, -alkenyl, or -alkynyl;

X is

a) -C(O)-;

~~b) $-CH_2-$;~~

~~wherein the $-CH_2-$ group is optionally substituted 1 to 2 times with a substituent group, wherein said substituent group(s) are selected from the group consisting of: alkyl, aryl, alkylene-aryl, arylene-alkyl, alkylene-arylene-alkyl, O-alkyl, O-aryl, and hydroxyl;~~

~~c)a direct bond; or~~

~~d) SO_2;~~

R_1 is

a) -hydrogen;
b) –fluoro
c) –chloro
d) –bromo
e) –iodo
f) -cyano
g) -alkyl;
h) –aryl;
i) -alkylene-aryl;
j) -heteroaryl;
k) –alkylkene-heteroaryl;
l) –cycloalkyl;
m) –alkylene-cycloalkyl
n) – heterocyclyl; or
o) – alkylene-heterocyclyl;

R_2 is

a) -perfluoroalkyl;
b) -J-R_{14};
c) -alkyl;

d) -aryl;

e) -heteroaryl;

f) -heterocyclyl;

g) -cycloalkyl;

h) $-L_4$ -aryl;

i) $-L_4$-arylene-aryl;

j) $-L_4$-arylene-alkyl;

k) -arylene-alkyl;

l) -arylene-arylene-alkyl;

m) -J-alkyl;

n) -J-aryl;

o) -J-alkylene-aryl;

p) -J-arylene-alkyl;

q) -J-alkylene-arylene-aryl;

r) -J-arylene-arylene-aryl;

s) -J-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

t) $-L_4$-J-alkylene-aryl;

u) -arylene-J-alkyl;

v) $-L_4$-J-aryl;

w) $-L_4$-J-heteroaryl;

x) $-L_4$-J-cycloalkyl;

y) $-L_4$-J-cycloalkylene-alkyl;

z) $-L_4$-J-heterocyclyl;

aa) $-L_4$-J-arylene-alkyl;

bb) $-L_4$-J-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

cc) $-L_4$-J-alkyl;

dd) $-L_4$-J-R_{14};

ee) $-L_4$-J-alkylene-R_{14};

ff) -J-L_4-R_{14};

gg) -arylene-J-R_{14};

hh) $-L_4$-arylene-J-alkyl;

ii) $-L_4$-alkylene-J-alkyl;

jj) $-L_4$-arylene-J-aryl;or

kk) -hydrogen;

wherein

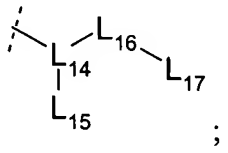
L_4 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene , –alkynylene, heterocyclylene, cycloalkylene, arylene, or heteroarylene;

J is a direct bond, $-CH_2-$, -O-, $-N(R_{15})-$, -C(O)-, $-CON(R_{15})-$, $-N(R_{15})C(O)-$, $-N(R_{15})CON(R_{16})-$, $-N(R_{15})C(O)O-$, $-OC(O)N(R_{15})-$, $-N(R_{15})SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(R_{15})-$, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, $-S(O_2)-$, $-N(R_{15})SO_2N(R_{16})-$, -N=N-, or $-N(R_{15})-N(R_{16})-$,

wherein

R_{15} and R_{16} are independently selected from the group consisting of : -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl,

R_{14} is: -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, -alkylene-arylene-alkyl, or



;

wherein

L_{14} is alkyline, cycloalkyline, heteroaryline, aryline, or heterocyclyline;

L_{16} is -O-, $-C(O)-N(R_{45})-$, -C(O)-O-, -C(O)-, or $-N(R_{45})-CO-N(R_{46})-$;

L_{17} is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, or -alkylene-aryl;

L_{15} is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, -alkylene-aryl, -alkylene -heteroaryl, alkylene-O-alkylene-aryl, -alkylene-S-alkylene-aryl, -alkylene-O-alkyl, -alkylene-S-alkyl, $-alkylene-NH_2$, -alkylene-

OH, -alkylene-SH, -alkylene-C(O)-OR_{47}, -alkylene-C(O)-$NR_{47}R_{48}$, -alkylene-$NR_{47}R_{48}$, -alkylene-$N(R_{47})$-C(O)-R_{48}, , -alkylene-$N(R_{47})$-$S(O_2)$-R_{48} , or the side chain of a natural or non – natural amino acid;

R_{47} and R_{48} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl, alkyl, and alkylene-aryl;

R_{47} and R_{48} may be taken together, with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, to form a heterocyclyl or heteroaryl ring,

R_{45} and R_{46} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl, alkyl, and alkylene-aryl;

R_3 is

a) -hydrogen
b) -alkyl
c) -aryl;
d) -alkylene-cycloalkyl;
e) -arylene-alkyl;
f) -alkylene-aryl; or
g) -alkylene-heteroaryl;

Ar_1 is an aryl~~, heteroaryl,~~ or fused cycloalkylaryl~~, fused cycloalkylheteroaryl, fused heterocyclylaryl, or fused heterocyclylheteroaryl~~ group optionally substituted 1 to 7 times and if Ar_1 is phenyl, the phenyl has 1 to 5 substituents, wherein the substituents for Ar_1 are selected from the group consisting of:

a) -fluoro;
b) -chloro;
c) -bromo;
d) -iodo;
e) -cyano;
f) -nitro;
g) -perfluoroalkyl;

h) -alkyl;

i) -aryl;

j) -heteroaryl;

k) -heterocyclyl;

l) -cycloalkyl;

m) - L_5-aryl;

n) - L_5-arylene-aryl;

o) - L_5-arylene-alkyl;

p) -arylene-alkyl;

q) -arylene-arylene-alkyl;

r) -K-alkyl;

s) -K-aryl;

t) -K-alkylene-aryl;

u) -K-arylene-alkyl;

v) -K-alkylene-arylene-aryl;

w) -K-arylene-arylene-aryl;

x) -K-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

y) - L_5-K-alkylene-aryl;

z) -arylene-K-alkyl;

aa) - L_5-K-aryl;

bb) - L_5-K-heteroaryl;

cc) - L_5-K-cycloalkyl;

dd) - L_5-K-heterocyclyl;

ee) - L_5-K-arylene-alkyl;

ff) - L_5-K-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

gg) - L_5-K-alkyl; and

hh) -arylene-K-R_{17};

wherein

L_5 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene, or –alkynylene;

K is a direct bond, $–CH_2$-, -$N(R_{18})$-, -C(O)-, -$CON(R_{18})$-, -$N(R_{18})C(O)$-, -$N(R_{18})CON(R_{19})$-, -$N(R_{18})C(O)O$-, -$OC(O)N(R_{18})$-, -$N(R_{18})SO_2$-, -

$SO_2N(R_{18})$-, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, -$S(O_2)$-, -$N(R_{18})SO_2N(R_{19})$-, -N=N-, or -$N(R_{18})$-$N(R_{19})$- ,

wherein

R_{17}, R_{18}, and R_{19} are independently selected from the group consisting of: -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

;

———Ar_2 is an arylene, ~~heteroarylene,~~ fused arylcycloalkylene, or fused cycloalkylarylene~~, fused cycloalkylheteroarylene, fused heterocyclylarylene, or fused heterocyclylheteroarylene~~ group optionally substituted 1 to 7 times;

L_1 is a direct bond, –CH_2-, -O-, alkylene, alkenylene, -O-alkylene-, -alkylene-O-, -$N(R_{23})$-, -C(O)-, -$CON(R_{23})$-, -$N(R_{23})C(O)$-, -$N(R_{23})CON(R_{24})$-, -$N(R_{23})C(O)O$-, -$OC(O)N(R_{23})$-, -$N(R_{23})SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(R_{23})$-, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, -$S(O_2)$-, -$N(R_{23})SO_2N(R_{24})$-, -N=N-, or -$N(R_{23})$-$N(R_{24})$-;

wherein

R_{23} and R_{24} are independently selected from the group consisting of: -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, alkylene-aryl, –alkylene-arylene-alkyl, and a direct bond;

T is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, heteroaryl, fused cycloalkylaryl, fused cycloalkylheteroaryl, fused heterocyclylaryl, or fused heterocyclylheteroaryl group optionally substituted 1 to 7 times, wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of:

a) -fluoro;
b) -chloro;
c) -bromo;
d) -iodo;
e) -cyano;
f) -nitro;
g) -perfluoroalkyl;

h) -U-R_{25};

i) -alkyl;

j) -aryl;

k) -heteroaryl;

l) -heterocyclyl;

m) -cycloalkyl;

n) -L_7 -aryl;

o) -L_7-arylene-aryl;

p) -L_7-arylene-alkyl;

q) -arylene-alkyl;

r) -arylene-arylene-alkyl;

s) -U-alkyl;

t) -U-aryl;

u) -U-alkylene-aryl;

v) -U-arylene-alkyl;

w) -U-alkylene-arylene-aryl;

x) -U-arylene-arylene-aryl;

y) -U-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

z) -L_7-U-alkylene-aryl;

aa) -arylene-U-alkyl;

bb) -L_7-U-aryl;

cc) -L_7-U-heteroaryl;

dd) -L_7-U-cycloalkyl;

ee) – L_7-U-heterocyclyl;

ff) -L_7-U-arylene-alkyl;

gg) -L_7-U-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

hh) -L_7-U-alkyl;

ii) -L_7-U-alkylene-aryl-R_{25};

jj) -L_7-U-alkylene-heteroaryl- R_{25};

kk) -arylene-U-alkylene- R_{25};

ll) -heteroarylene-U-alkylene- R_{25};

mm) -L_7-U-aryl- R_{25};

nn) -L_7-U-heteroarylene- R_{25};

oo) -L_7-U-heteroaryl- R_{25};

pp) -L_7-U-cycloalkyl- R_{25};

qq) -L_7-U-heterocyclyl- R_{25};

rr) -L_7-U-arylene-alkyl- R_{25};

ss) -L_7-U-heteroarylene-alkyl- R_{25};

tt) -L_7-U-alkylene-arylene-alkyl- R_{25};

uu) -L_7-U-alkylene-heteroarylene-alkyl- R_{25};

vv) -L_7-U-alkylene-cycloalkylene-alkyl- R_{25};

ww) -L_7-U-alkylene-heterocyclylene-alkyl- R_{25};

xx) -L_7-U-alkyl- R_{25};

yy) -L_7-U- R_{25};

zz) -arylene-U- R_{25};

aaa) -heteroarylene-U- R_{25};

bbb) -heterocyclylene-U- R_{25};

ccc) -U-alkylene- R_{25};

ddd) -U-arylene- R_{25};

eee) -U-heteroarylene- R_{25};

fff) -U-alkylene-arylene- R_{25};

ggg) -U-alkylene-heteroarylene- R_{25};

hhh) -U-heteroarylene-alkylene- R_{25};

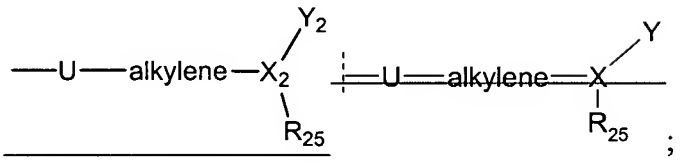
iii) -U-arylene-alkylene- R_{25};

jjj) -U-cycloalkylene-alkylene- R_{25};

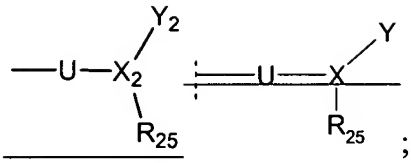
kkk) -U-heterocyclylene-alkylene- R_{25};

lll) -U-alkylene-arylene-alkyl- R_{25};

mmm) -U-alkylene-heteroarylene-alkyl- R_{25};

nnn) 

;

ooo)  ; and

ppp) –hydrogen;

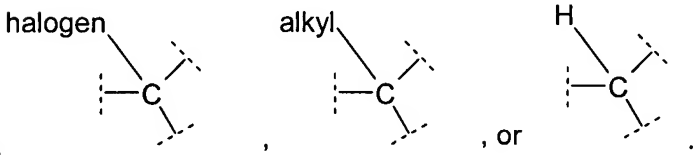
wherein

L_7 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene , or –alkynylene;

U is a direct bond, $-CH_2-$, -O-, $-N(R_{26})-$, -C(O)-, $-CON(R_{26})-$, $-N(R_{26})C(O)-$, $-N(R_{26})CON(R_{27})-$, $-N(R_{26})C(O)O-$, $-OC(O)N(R_{26})-$, $-N(R_{26})SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(R_{26})-$, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, $-S(O_2)-$, $-N(R_{26})SO_2N(R_{27})-$, N=N-, or $-N(R_{26})-N(R_{27})-$;

wherein

R_{26} and R_{27} are independently selected from the group consisting of : -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

$\underline{X_2}$ ~~X~~ is 

, , or ;

~~Y~~ $\underline{Y_2}$ is hydrogen, $-CO_2H$, -alkylene-aryl, -alkyl, -aryl, -heteroaryl, -heterocyclyl, -cycloalkyl, -alkylene-heteroaryl, or -alkylene-cycloalkyl;

R_{25} is $-SO_3H$, $-P(O)(OH)_2$, -P(O)(O-alkyl)(OH), $-CO_2H$, $-CO_2$-alkyl, an acid isostere, -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, or -alkylene-arylene-alkyl,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt~~,~~ or solvate~~, or prodrug~~ thereof.

2. (Previously Presented) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein W is $-N(R_4)-$, wherein R_4 is -alkyl, $-L_2$-D-alkyl, or $-L_2$-D-aryl, wherein L_2 is alkylene, and D is a direct bond, –C(O)- or –O-.

3. (Previously Presented) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein W is $-N(R_4)-$, wherein R_4 is hydrogen.

4. (Previously Presented) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein W is $-N(R_4)-$, wherein R_4 is $-L_2-D-G$, wherein L_2 is alkenyl or alkynyl, D is a direct bond, and G is hydrogen or alkyl.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R_1 is hydrogen or aryl.

7. (Previously Presented) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R_2 is: -alkyl, -aryl, $-L_4-J-$cycloalkyl, arylene-alkyl, $-L_4-$arylene-J-alkyl, or -J-alkyl, wherein L_4 is alkylene or alkenylene, and J is a direct bond or –O-.

8. (Previously Presented) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R_3 is -H; X is -C(O)-; R_2 is $-L_4-$arylene-J-alkyl, $-L_4-J-$cycloalkylene-alkyl or $-L_4-J-$alkylene-aryl, wherein L_4 is alkylene, alkenylene, or a direct bond; and J is a direct bond, -O-, or -NH-.

9. (Previously Presented) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R_3 is hydrogen.

10. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_1 is a phenyl or naphthyl group ~~optionally~~ having 1 to 5 substituents, wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of:

a) -fluoro;

b) -chloro;

c) -bromo;

d) -iodo;

e) -cyano;

f) -nitro;

g) -perfluoroalkyl;

~~h) -K-R_{17};~~

~~i~~h) -alkyl;

~~j~~i) -aryl;

~~k~~j) -heteroaryl;

~~l~~k) -heterocyclyl;

~~m~~l) -cycloalkyl;

~~n~~m) - L_5-aryl;

~~o~~n) - L_5-arylene-aryl;

~~p~~o) - L_5-arylene-alkyl;

~~q~~p) -arylene-alkyl;

~~r~~q) -arylene-arylene-alkyl;

~~s~~r) -K-alkyl;

~~t~~s) -K-aryl;

~~u~~t) -K-alkylene-aryl;

~~v~~u) -K-arylene-alkyl;

~~w~~v) -K-alkylene-arylene-aryl;

~~x~~w) -K-arylene-arylene-aryl;

~~y~~x) -K-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

~~z~~y) - L_5-K-alkylene-aryl;

~~aa~~z) -arylene-K-alkyl;

~~bb~~aa) - L_5-K-aryl;

~~cc~~bb) - L_5-K-heteroaryl;

~~dd~~cc) - L_5-K-cycloalkyl;

~~ee~~dd) - L_5-K-heterocyclyl;

~~ff~~ee) - L_5-K-arylene-alkyl;

~~gg~~ff) - L_5-K-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

~~hh~~gg) - L_5-K-alkyl;

~~ii) L_5-K-R_{17};~~ and

~~jj~~hh) -arylene-K-R_{17}; ~~and~~

~~kk) hydrogen;~~

wherein

L_5 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene, or –alkynylene;

K is a direct bond, $-CH_2-$, ~~-O-~~, $-N(R_{18})-$, -C(O)-, $-CON(R_{18})-$, $-N(R_{18})C(O)-$, $-N(R_{18})CON(R_{19})-$, $-N(R_{18})C(O)O-$, $-OC(O)N(R_{18})-$, $-N(R_{18})SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(R_{18})-$, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, $-S(O_2)-$, $-N(R_{18})SO_2N(R_{19})-$, -N=N-, or $-N(R_{18})-N(R_{19})-$,

wherein

R_{17}, R_{18}, and R_{19} are independently selected from the group consisting of: -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl.

11. (Previously Presented) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_1 is a phenyl group substituted 1 to 5 times with substituents independently selected from the group consisting of:

a) -fluoro;

b) -chloro;

c) -bromo;

d) -iodo; and

e) -nitro.

12. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_2 ~~comprises~~ is a phenylene or naphthylene group optionally having 1 to 5 substituents, wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of:

a) -fluoro;

b) -chloro;

c) -bromo;

d) -iodo;

e) -cyano;

f) -nitro;

g) -perfluoroalkyl;

h) -Q-R_{20};

i) -alkyl;

j) -aryl;

k) -heteroaryl;

l) -heterocyclyl;

m) -cycloalkyl;

n) -L_6-aryl;

o) -L_6-arylene-aryl;

p) -L_6-arylene-alkyl;

q) -arylene-alkyl;

r) -arylene-arylene-alkyl;

s) -Q-alkyl;

t) -Q-aryl;

u) -Q-alkylene-aryl;

v) -Q-arylene-alkyl;

w) -Q-alkylene-arylene-aryl;

x) -Q-arylene-arylene-aryl;

y) -Q-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

z) -L_6-Q-alkylene-aryl;

aa) -arylene-Q-alkyl;

bb) -L_6-Q-aryl;

cc) -L_6-Q-heteroaryl;

dd) -L_6-Q-cycloalkyl;

ee) -L_6-Q-heterocyclyl;

ff) -L_6-Q-arylene-alkyl;

gg) -L_6-Q-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

hh) -L_6-Q-alkyl;

ii) -L_6-Q-alkylene-aryl-R_{20};

jj) -L_6-Q-alkylene-heteroaryl-R_{20};

kk) -arylene-Q-alkylene- R_{20};

ll) -heteroarylene-Q-alkylene- R_{20};

mm) -L_6-Q-aryl- R_{20};

nn) –L_6-Q-heteroarylene- R_{20};

oo) –L_6-Q-heteroaryl- R_{20};

pp) –L_6-Q-cycloalkyl- R_{20};

qq) –L_6-Q-heterocyclyl- R_{20};

rr) –L_6-Q-arylene-alkyl- R_{20};

ss) –L_6-Q-heteroarylene-alkyl- R_{20};

tt) –L_6-Q-alkylene-arylene-alkyl- R_{20};

uu) –L_6-Q-alkylene-heteroarylene-alkyl- R_{20};

vv) –L_6-Q-alkylene-cycloalkylene-alkyl- R_{20};

ww) –L_6-Q-alkylene-heterocyclylene-alkyl- R_{20};

xx) –L_6-Q-alkyl- R_{20};

yy) –L_6-Q- R_{20};

zz) -arylene-Q- R_{20};

aaa) -heteroarylene-Q- R_{20};

bbb) -heterocyclylene-Q- R_{18};

ccc) -Q-alkylene- R_{20};

ddd) -Q-arylene- R_{20};

eee) -Q-heteroarylene- R_{20};

fff) -Q-alkylene-arylene- R_{20};

ggg) -Q-alkylene-heteroarylene- R_{20};

hhh) -Q-heteroarylene-alkylene- R_{20};

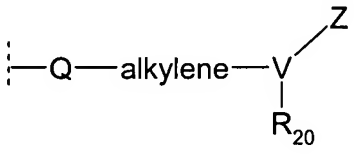
iii) -Q-arylene-alkylene- R_{20};

jjj) -Q-cycloalkylene-alkylene- R_{20};

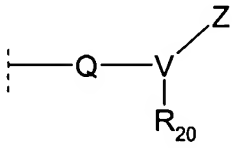
kkk) -Q-heterocyclylene-alkylene- R_{20};

lll) -Q-alkylene-arylene-alkyl- R_{20}; or

mmm) -Q-alkylene-heteroarylene-alkyl- R_{20};

nnn) 

;

ooo) 

; and

ppp) –hydrogen,

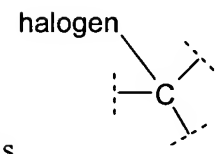
wherein

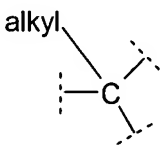
L_6 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene , or –alkynylene;

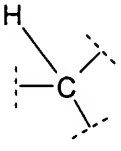
Q is a direct bond, $–CH_2$-, -O-, $-N(R_{21})$-, -C(O)-, $-CON(R_{21})$-, $-N(R_{21})C(O)$-, $-N(R_{21})CON(R_{22})$-, $-N(R_{21})C(O)O$-, $-OC(O)N(R_{21})$-, $-N(R_{21})SO_2$-, $-SO_2N(R_{21})$-, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, $-S(O_2)$-, $-N(R_{21})SO_2N(R_{22})$-, N=N-, or $-N(R_{21})-N(R_{22})$-;

wherein

R_{21} and R_{22} are independently selected from the group consisting of: -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

V is 

, 

, or 

;

Z is hydrogen, $-CO_2H$, -alkylene-aryl, -alkyl, -aryl, -heteroaryl, -heterocyclyl, -cycloalkyl, -alkylene-heteroaryl, or -alkylene-cycloalkyl;

R_{20} is $-SO_3H$, $-P(O)(OH)_2$, -P(O)(O-alkyl)(OH), $–CO_2H$, $-CO_2$-alkyl, an acid isostere, hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, or -alkylene-arylene-alkyl.

13. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_2 ~~comprises~~ is a phenylene or

naphthylene group optionally substituted 1 to 5 times, wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of:

a) -fluoro;

b) -chloro;

c) -bromo;

d) -iodo;

e) -Q-R_{20};

f) -alkyl;

g) -aryl;

h) -arylene-alkyl;

i) -Q-alkyl; and

j) -arylene-Q-alkyl;

wherein

Q is: $-CH_2-$, -O-, -C(O)-, or -C(O)-O-; and

R_{20} is: -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, cycloalkyl, -alkenyl, $-CO_2H$, or an acid isostere.

14. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_2 is a phenylene group substituted 1 to 5 times, wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of

a) -fluoro;

b) -chloro;

c) -bromo;

d) -iodo;

e) -Q-R_{20};

f) -alkyl;

g) -phenyl;

h) -phenylene-alkyl;

i) -Q-alkyl; and

j) -phenylene-Q-alkyl;

wherein

Q is: $-CH_2-$, -O-, -C(O)-, or -C(O)-O-; and

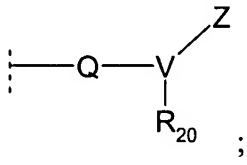
R_{20} is: -hydrogen, -alkyl, –phenyl, -cycloalkyl, alkenyl, or $-CO_2H$.

15. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_2 is a phenylene group substituted 1 to 5 times, wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of :

a) -Q-alkyl;

b) -Q-arylene-R_{20};

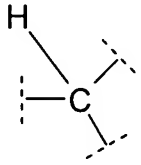
c) -Q-alkylene-arylene-R_{20}; and

d) -Q-  ;

wherein

Q is: $-CH_2-$, -O-, -C(O)-, or -C(O)-O-;

Z is $-CO_2H$ or an acid isostere;

V is  ; and

R_{20} is: $-CO_2H$ or an acid isostere.

16. (Previously Presented) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein L_1 is -O-alkylene- or a direct bond.

17. (Previously Presented) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein T is an aryl group substituted by -U-alkylene-R_{25}, wherein U is -O- or a direct bond and R_{25} is $-CO_2H$ or an acid isostere.

18. (Previously Presented) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein X and R_2 together form a group selected from the group consisting of:

tert-butoxycarbonyl, tert-butyl-methyl-carbonyl, 4-cyclohexyl-butyryl, 3-cyclohexyl-propionyl, 2-cyclohexyl-acetyl, 4-tert-butyl-phenyl)-carbonyl, 4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-butyryl, 4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-butyryl, 3-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-propionyl, 3-(3'-methoxyphenyl)-propionyl, 3-(4'-methoxy-phenyl)-acryl, 3-(4'-chloro-phenyl)-acryl, 2-(4'-methoxy-phenyl)-acetyl, 2-(4'-chloro-phenyl)-acetyl, 2-(4'-methylsulfonyl-phenyl)-acetyl, 2-(4'-methylsulfonyl-phenyl)-acetyl, 4-(4'-chloro-2'-methyl-phenoxy)-butyryl, 4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-butyryl, and 4-(4'-cyclohexyl)-propyl.

19. (Previously Presented) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein a equals 0, and the groups T, L_1, and Ar_2 together form a group selected from the group consisting of: 4'-n-butoxy-3'-n-butoxy carbonyl phenyl, and 4'-n-butoxy-3'-carboxyl phenyl.

20. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_1 is selected from the group consisting of ~~phenyl,~~ naphthyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 3, 4-dichlorophenyl, 2, 4-dichlorophenyl, 2,5-dichlorophenyl, 2,6-dichlorophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-bromophenyl, and pentafluorophenyl.

21. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1, where the compound of Formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of:

2-[3-(4'-Methoxyphenyl)-propionylamino]-2-(4'-n-butoxy-3'-carboxyphenyl)-2-ethyl[4-(4'-nitrophenyl)]imidazole;

2-[3-(4'-Methoxy-phenyl)-acrylamino]-2-(4'-n-butoxy-3'-carboxyphenyl)-2-ethyl[4-(4'-nitrophenyl)]imidazole;

2-[4-(4'-Methoxyphenyl)-butyryl amino]-2-(4'-n-butoxy-3'-carboxy phenyl)-2-ethyl [4-(2', 4'-dichlorophenyl)] imidazole;

2-[4-(4'-Cyclohexyl)-propanoylamino]-2-(4'-n-butoxy-3'-carboxyphenyl)-2-ethyl[4-(2',4'-dichlorophenyl)] imidazole;

N-{(1*S*)-2-(4-(1,1-Dicarboxymethoxy)phenyl)-1-[4-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-1H-1-(1-butyl)imidazol-2-yl]ethyl}-4-tert-butylcyclohexanecarboxamide;

4-(4-{(2S)-2-[(4-tert-Butyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-2-[1-butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2*S*)-2-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-{4-[2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2*S*)-2-(2-cyclopentyl-acetylamino)-ethyl]-phenoxymethyl}-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2*S*)-2-[(*trans*-4-methyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2*S*)-2-[(*trans*-4-ethyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{(2*S*)-2-[(4-tert-Butyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-2-[4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-(*E*)-1-pent-2-enyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-(*E*)-1-pent-2-enyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2*S*)-2-[(trans-4-ethyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-But-2-ynyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[(trans-4-ethyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{(2S)-2-[(4-tert-Butyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-2-[1-butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[(trans-4-ethyl-cyclohexane-carbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-1-pent-2-enyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[(trans-4-ethyl-cyclohexane-carbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-But-2-ynyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[(trans-4-ethyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[4-(3-fluorobenzylcarbamoyl)-butyrylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[2-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-acetylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-{4-[2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-(4-methoxy-benzoylamino)-ethyl]-phenoxy}-benzoic acid;

4-{4-[2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-(3,5-difluoro-benzoylamino)-ethyl]-phenoxy}-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-ureido]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

~~Trans-4-Ethyl-cyclohexane-carboxylic acid ((1S)-1-[1-butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-2-{4-[4-(1H-tetrazol-5-yl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-ethyl)-amide;~~

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[3-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-ureido]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[3-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-ureido]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-(2S)-isobutyrylamino-propionylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[3-(4-tert-butyl-phenyl)-(2S)-2-isobutyrylamino-propionylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid; and

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[4-(4-chloro-phenyl)-(3S)-3-isobutyrylamino-butyrylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

~~4-tert-Butyl-cyclohexanecarboxylic acid ((1S)-1-[1-butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-2-{4-[4-(1H-tetrazol-5-yl)-benzyloxy]-phenyl}-ethyl)-amide,~~

~~and~~ or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

22. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutically composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1.

23. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22, wherein said compound is a topical formulation.

24. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is suitable for administration of said compound ~~is administered~~ in a formulation ~~ration~~ ratio of 0.1% to 99% of compound to topical excipient.

25. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1 sufficient to inhibit protein tyrosine phosphatase.

26. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, in the form of an oral dosage or parenteral dosage unit.

27. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is suitable for administration of said compound ~~is administered~~ as a dose in a range from about 0.003 to 500 mg/kg of body weight per day.

28. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is suitable for administration of said compound ~~is administered~~ as a dose in a range from about 0.1 to 200 mg/kg of body weight per day.

29. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is suitable for administration of said compound ~~is administered~~ as a dose in a range from about 0.1 to 100 mg/kg of body weight per day.

30. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, further comprising one or more therapeutic agents selected from the group consisting of alkylating agents, antimetabolites, plant alkaloids, antibiotics, hormones, biologic response modifiers, analgesics, NSAIDs, DMARDs, glucocorticoids, sulfonylureas, biguanides, acarbose, PPAR agonists, DPP-IV inhibitors, GK activators, insulin, insulin mimetics, insulin secretagogues, insulin sensitizers, GLP-1, GLP-1 mimetics, cholinesterase inhibitors, antipsychotics, antidepressants, anticonvulsants, HMG CoA reductase inhibitors, cholestyramine, and fibrates.

31. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat type I diabetes.

32. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat type II diabetes.

33-35. (canceled).

36. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat glucose intolerance.

37. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat obesity.

38. (canceled).

39. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat psoriasis.

40-62. (canceled)

63. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 2.

64. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 3.

65. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 4.

66. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 6.

67. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 7.

68. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 8.

69. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 9.

70. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 10.

71. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 11.

72. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 12.

73. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 13.

74. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 14.

75. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 15.

76. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 16.

77. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 17.

78. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 18.

79. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 19.

80. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 20.

81. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 21.